

other motives. I write this for your information, and you will excuse me, in one of which Dr. Lovell was mentioned, as those he has specially come to require retreat for. Although he has soldiers with him, he does not mean to assume the offensive, unless he is attacked, in which case he must fight. He thus continues: "The Chinese represent foreign merchants trading at the open ports of Amoy, Foochow, and Taku, the English, French, and Americans, who have been disengaged, saying that the English are taking, to enter into relations with the savages and supply them with the necessities of war. Such things will not be permitted, and any one attempting to do so will be arrested. I therefore expect Y. E. to issue a Proclamation throughout all the districts and coasts of the Island, warning all merchants, Chinese or foreign, not to enter into any respect whatever, either in the event of a conflict, or caused by any soldier, ceasing to the districts presided over by your officials, to you will direct the latter to hand them over to my soldiers at once."

Reply by the Viceregy of Fuzhou.

In reply to your despatch, I have to state that the whole of Formosa has for a long time been under Chinese jurisdiction, and the natives now live on the Emperor's soil and have done so for 200 years. Other provinces, as Kwangsi, Hainan, Yunan, and Kweichow, have their aborigines, and these places are called the wild and lawless parts of China. Although the aborigines, living in the recesses of the hills, are monkey-like and do not understand the teachings of civilization, or are by chance beyond the reach of the orders of Government, nevertheless, inasmuch as they are on Chinese territory, they are under Chinese jurisdiction.

International Law lays down that all persons or things, movable or immovable, being actually within the territory of any State, are subject to the municipal laws of that State, whether such persons or things were born or produced there, or were imported from another State. This is the law, however, in this instance, of a State in the Chinese dominions, as the land in its State itself. It is also laid down that when once a new territory has been acquired, whether by discovery or conquest, and other nations have acknowledged the fact, all parties resident in such territory, although ignorant of what had taken place, become citizens of the new State. This is the case with regard to the new territories acquired by the Chinese people; it is curious to notice the very large proportion of women who are engaged in various trades and occupations. For instance, out of the total number of 14,870,428 farmers, 8,06,412 are females; and 49,409 merchant offices are presided over by women, as compared with 819,782 which have men as masters. It is plain, therefore, that in Japan there are more women than men, and the criminal statistics show that, compared with the men, they are as honourably free from crime as they are diligent in the pursuit of lawful occupations. The criminals in prison are said to number 9,459, of whom only 1,19 are females; while the number of the male criminals—assaults and battery, 2,728; and robbery, 2,303—represent the greater number of criminals in Japan. If they did, they would yield the truly astonishing result that out of a population of more than 33 millions only 1 in 5,500 is an offender against the law. —*Pal Mall Gazette.*

DEATHS OF SEAMEN.

An interesting return, has just been issued, showing the number, ages, ratings, and causes of deaths of seamen, reported to the Board of Trade, for the year 1873. The total number of deaths during 1873, the total number of deaths in all the principal ports of the world, was 5,393. Of these 3,354 died due to accident. No fewer than 676 seamen died of fever—373 of yellow fever, 22 of intermittent fever, and 25 of continued fever (under various names)—258 of such diseases as cholera, dysentery, inflammation, &c., 235 of diseases of the lungs and nervous system, 138 of diseases of the heart and kidneys, and 145 of diseases of the brain and great blood vessels. "Tuberculosis" 140, 140 died of it. To coincide with the deaths were due, and to manslaughter and homicide, 5. As regards the "rating" of those who died in 1873, 1,372 were seafarers, 513 ordinary seafarers, 466 mates, 245 cooks and steward, 349 apprentices and boys, 238, 163 carpenters, 133 engineers, 131 boatswains, 46 of minor capacities, 40 seafarers, 21 quartermasters, 18 seafarers, 16 steerswheels, and 16 midshipmen. The average age of all the dead was 35 years, the greatest from 21 to 30, 919 having died between those ages. Under 21 were 1,014 deaths; from 31 to 40, 917; from 41 to 50, 388; from 51 to 60, 125; over 60, 20; and of unknown age, 760. These figures ought to be of service in aiding the authorities to take proper precautions to prevent the occurrence of similar circumstances again, must be exposed to peculiar hardships, but their risks of disease, not less than of accident, might be considerably lessened by a proper study of the conditions under which they live. —*Globe.*

HE BREW HIS POOR.—A West Indian who had a remarkably red nose, having fallen asleep in his chair, a negro boy, who was in waiting over him, magnetized, however, by the heat of the fire, and, as he lay there, at last, lit up on his master's nose, and an instant flow of sap—“Yah, Yah, Yah!” he exclaimed, with great glee; “I’m berry glad to see you burn your fat!”

The wife of a labourer named Overend, living at Woking, near London, sometimes gives birth to four boys. Only two of them are living. The Boston Advertiser did the following: “A good many people suppose that there is something amiss with her.” To a friend, “You’re a beautiful creature.” The boy just for that.

Laid two eggs in his hat—And thus did the Honorable Beecher!

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—JUNE 17TH, EVENING.

New Patria, \$533, cash sellers; New Bonnes, \$542, cash sellers. No change in other kinds. Imports per Orion: 440 chests, Patna, and 10 chests Benares.

ERROS GARDENS.

Per American barb. Windward, for San Francisco.

23,558 bags Rice, each 50 lbs.; 800 boxes China Oil, 355 bags Root Flour, 150 bags Tea, 525 bags Pepper, 160 bags Sago, 34 boxes Feathers, 600 bundles Toy Mats, 20 packages Camphor Wood Trunks, 673 pieces, 1,642 cases Sandies.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, on demand, 433.

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight, 434.

Credits, at 6 months' sight, 441.

Documentary Bills, at maturity, 442.

On Bonn, 100 days, 3 days' sight, 226.

On Calcutta—Bank 3 days' sight, 227.

On Shanghai—Bank, 30 days' sight, 731.

SHIRES.

Hongkong and Shantung Bank Shares—27

Union Fireman's Society of Canton, new shares, \$60 per share premium.

China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares, \$1,700 per annum.

China and Japan Marine Insurance—The 97 per share.

Chinese Insurance Company—\$200 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$485 per share.

China General Insurance Company's Shares—\$1,200 per share.

Victoria Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$123 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—47 per cent. discount.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.'s Shares—20 per cent. premium.

Shanghai Steam Navigation Company—The

Hongkong and Company's Shares—\$75 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—\$60 per cent. discount.

Indo-Chinese Sugar Company—\$4 per cent. discount.

Sales on JUNE 17TH, 1874.

As reported by C. H. White, 1 p.m., at \$1,150 by Hip-shing to local traders.

White's Sugar, 20 bags, at 26.70, by Hip-shing to travelling traders.

The Old 1/2 inch at the 5.300, by Hip-shing to local traders.

Brown Sugar, 100 bags, at \$3.45, by Kwong-hung to local traders.

White's Sugar, 20 bags, at \$18.70, by Kwong-hung to local traders.

White's Sugar, 10 bags, at 26.20, by Yee-kee to local traders.

TRUBBER & CO., Patagonian Wool.

W. H. BELL, Daily Press Office, Hongkong.

Extracts.

SYNTHINE.
Look out, look out, my little maid,
The rain is falling fast,
And all the sky with gathering shade
Of cloud is overcast.
"Oh, mother dear!" big drops I hear
Beat on the window-pane;
But in the sky bright I say,
Of sunshine in the rain.

The clouds rolled by, one broke the rays,
Glistening about the shower,
Singing the tropic all alone.
Like a wild, lone flower,
"Oh, mother dear!" the heaven is clear,
The sky is blue again;
The sun is bright with jewelled light
Of sunshine in the rain.

The rising sun was pale over the maid
Since that sweet summer tide;
The girl is now a matron staid,
With children by her side;
When round her life the clouds grow white
Of sorrow and of pain.

She knows from heaven that light is given
Like sunshine in the rain.

ON HIS "DIG."

Stable serenades, as a rule, a great aversion to assisting in the house. They stand on their dignity, and often refuse to wait at table. A Toronto paper gives a good hint on this subject. Mrs. Senator Sprague, we read, recently asked her coachman to attend in the house on the occasion of one of the receptions "for which she is so justly famed." The man refused, on the ground that as he was a coachman, to attend at table would be *infra dig*. "Very well," said the lady, "bring the carriage to the door." This, of course, the man in livery did, probably feeling he had gained a victory. But he was mistaken, for during the whole day he was kept on the box-shivering in the cold, and when the reception was over was quietly informed by the lady in person that the carriage was not required.

THE LAST DAYS OF SHIRLEY BROOKS.

Some—I trust many—under whose eyes these lines will fall will remember Shirley Brooks in his latter days, when the hard-fought fight had been won, and he had come out of it, his whitening hair being the only scars of the struggle. He never looked braver, handsomer, nor happier. He was deep in his books, as familiar with his ink, as ever; but now he had his acknowledgement

in the literature which he loved. The steel at Napoleon's side was the same on the eve of the battle as on the morrow of victory; but on the morrow it was the sword of Austerlitz. How cheerily and kindly, in the heyday of his complete success, Shirley Brooks gathered his circle of friends about him, none who ever stood under his roof-tree will forget. That was a pleasant house in Kent-terrace, by the Regent's Park, where so many men whose names are household words were wont to gather and be wisely merry. How many years have I seen out and in sitting with hosts of friends round the mahogany tree of our dear friend! How many times has his manly and kindly voice said "God bless you all" to us, as the bells of the new year broke through the stillness of midnight! He stood at the head of his table last New Year's eve, his friends crowded about him—the background his books and pictures; watch in hand. His happy English face, ennobled with silver hair, never looked fuller or the intellectual light that he had trimmed and burned a student always—for nearly forty years. I remember that sad feeling, cast upon me as I gazed at him, with his watch in his hand counting the dying seconds of the last New Year's eve, he was destined to see. For he remained me of my father in his study at Kilburn Priory, on his last New Year's eve, when he spoke so solemnly and slowly, as though in the midst of our reverie death had whispered to him. The scattered flakes of white hair were the chief resemblance between the two, and it was that which rived the old scene in my mind—for I was struck with what appeared to me to be the almost sudden whiteness of my friend. But no sad memory, no melancholy foreboding, was apparent on the night when, for the last time, Shirley Brooks blessed his guests, and wished them a happy New Year. All the old friends were there. Firth, Tenniel, Edmund Yates, Du Maurier, Barnard, Mrs. Keeley, Crowley, J. C. Parkinson, Samson, and many others; and among the welcome strangers was Mark Twain, who proposed the health of the host in a speech brimming with his peculiar humour. Shirley Brooks replied quietly, and with a little fatigued in his manner. It was late, and he abhorred late hours. He had been an early man all his life; and to this good habit he owed that prodigious power of work which astonished his friends, who knew that he had never been a robust man. Less than two months afterwards he was upon his death-bed. He was busy with his duties to the last hour of his life. On the morning of the day on which his eyes were closed for ever he looked over the forthcoming number of *Punch*, and made some suggestions. He was at peace with all the world. He had blessed his wife for the loving care with which she had watched over him. His boys were at home with him. And he turned gently on his side, fell into his long sleep, leaving hosts of friends to mourn him, and not an enemy, that I ever heard of, to assail his memory.—*Gentleman's Magazine*.

CHOOSING A PIANO.

In choosing a piano people are liable to be led away by the desire of possessing what they call a powerful instrument—forgetting, or not knowing, that mere loudness is of itself anything but a recommendation, and may be, as it often is, the result of a defect rather than of any excellence in its construction.

It is the quality, not the strength of the tone, by which a piano (or indeed any musical instrument) should be judged; and as this quality, or timbre, is a thing which cannot easily be described, it would be well for a novice to take "counselor's opinion" before purchasing—that is to say, some musical friend, who knows what tone is, to make the selection for him. As a rule, general evenness of tone throughout is a good sign, carelessly made or ill-tempered instruments being frequently uneven in tone and weak about the tenor or middle part of the key-board. Pianos are either unichords, bichords, or trichords—that is, have one, two, or three strings to each note. Unichords are not much in vogue, and are now rarely made unless to order; for though sweet in tone, being incapable of imperfect unisons, they are liable to get out of tune before a tyro, in the absence of the dissonant false unisons, would be well aware of it. Cottage, camel, and square pianos were generally bichords, but for the last dozen years and more upright trichords have been largely made, with advantages to the possessors of them in every way, with the trifling drawback that they take rather longer time to tune. Other things being equal, the quality of tone is best in a trichord, and for that reason it has our preference. Grand pianos are almost invariably trichords, and they are, and always must be, from the plan of their construction, the most perfect instruments. But their cost places them out of the majority of middle-class households, and they are further much too powerful and resonant for the small rooms of a middle-class dwelling-house. A word as to the treatment of the piano. It is a fact, old as sounds, that a piano may, in a sense, be educated to good behaviour. It should be kept in a dry atmosphere, as an even temperature, not in a current of air, and not fronting the fire too near. Now

pianos need not be expected to stand very long in perfect tune, but if a piano is well used frequently—say once a month for the first year of its existence, and somewhat less frequently for a year or so afterwards—it will, so to speak, acquire the habit of keeping a tune, barring any radical defect in its material or its construction.

SPECIAL ATTENTION of shippers is called for in the case of packages having been submitted to sea, with a value of **THIRTY THREE AND ONE THIRD PER CENT.** allowed by this Company on LOCAL RISKS, or on ALL OTHER RISKS the Brokerage allowed is **FIFTEEN (15%) PER CENT.**

SIMSEN & CO. Agents, 1270 Hongkong, 5th June, 1874.

INSURANCES.

THE OOSTENING SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF BATAVIA.
SPECIAL ATTENTION of shippers is called for in the case of packages having been submitted to sea, with a value of **THIRY THREE AND ONE THIRD PER CENT.** allowed by this Company on LOCAL RISKS, or on ALL OTHER RISKS the Brokerage allowed is **FIFTEEN (15%) PER CENT.**

SIMSEN & CO. Agents, 1270 Hongkong, 5th June, 1874.

YANGTZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.

NOTICE.

ON and after this date the above Association will allow a Brokerage of **THIRTY THREE AND ONE THIRD PER CENT.** on Local Risks only.

RUSSELL & CO. Agents, 1277 Hongkong, 4th June, 1874.

OFFICE OF THE CHINA TRADES INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

NOTICE.

ON and after this date the above Association will allow a Brokerage of **THIRTY THREE AND ONE THIRD PER CENT.** on Local Risks only.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & CO. Agents, 886 Hongkong, 4th June, 1874.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents in Hongkong for the above Company, are prepared to grant Marine risks at current rates.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & CO. Agents, 1277 Hongkong, 1st March, 1874.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of \$60,000 on any one

first-class Risk.

A Brokerage of **TWENTY FIVE (25%)** will be made on the premium charged on all Insurance, and **Interest** being payable on the issue of the Policy.

GILB. LIVINGSTON & CO. Agents, 339 Hongkong, 1st March, 1874.

CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

AFTER this date a brokerage of **Thirty-three and one-third per cent.** will be allowed on the premium charged on all Risks in CHINA, JAPAN, the PHILIPPINES, and the STEATS.

On risks to all other ports, the brokerage will be ten per cent. (10%) only.

WM. FUSTAU & CO. Agents, 1271 Hongkong, 21st January, 1874.

BATAVIA SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurance as follows:

MARINE RISKS.

Policies granted on First-class Building, to an extent of \$10,000.

A Discount of **TWENTY FIVE (25%)** upon the current local rates will be allowed on premium charged for insurance; such discount being deducted at the time of issue of policy.

RUSSELL & CO. Agents, 1271 Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant **GRAN INSURANCES** to the extent of \$5,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

MELCHERS & CO. Agents, 674 Hongkong, 1st May, 1874.

TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept **Fire**, **Covered**, **Marine**, **and **Life**** risks, subject to a sum of 20 per cent.

SEIMSEN & CO. Agents, 1270 Hongkong, 16th November, 1872.

QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

FROM and after this date, and until further notice, a Discount of **Twenty per cent.** (20%) upon current local rates of Premium will be returned on Insurances effected with this Company.

EDWARD NORTON & CO. Agents, 1174 Hongkong, 26th June, 1872.

COMMERCIAL UNION INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned Agents at Hongkong for the above Company's Fire Department are prepared to grant **POlicies** against Fire to the extent of \$10,000 on Buildings or Goods stored therein, at current rates, subject to an immediate discount of Twenty per cent.

THE BORNEO COMPANY LIMITED. By 790 Hongkong, 26th May, 1874.

THE MALAYA INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents to the above Company at this port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of \$10,000 on Buildings, or Goods stored therein.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO. Agents, 717 Hongkong, 26th November, 1872.

PHENIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

FROM this date, and until further notice, a discount of **Twenty per cent.** (20%) upon the local rates of premium will be allowed on insurances effected with this Company.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO. Agents, 1174 Hongkong, 27th June, 1872.

THE CHINA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG, GENEVA, at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Sago and Penang.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rates of Premium current at the above-mentioned Port.

No charge for Policy fee.

JAS. B. COUGHTRY, Secretary, Hongkong, 1st November, 1872. (u.s.b.)

NOTICE.

THE QUINN INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

THE following rates will be charged for **SHORT PERIOD** Insurances, viz.—

Not exceeding 10 days, the annual rates.

Not exceeding 1 month, 1 do. do.

Above 1 month and not 1 year, 1 do. do.

Exceeding three months, 1 do. do.

Above 6 months, the full annual rate.

GILLAN & CO. Agents, 1270 Hongkong, 1st January, 1872.

NOTICE.

THE QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

THE following rates will be charged for **SHORT PERIOD** Insurances, viz.—

Not exceeding 10 days, the annual rates.

Not exceeding 1 month, 1 do. do.

Above 1 month and not 1 year, 1 do. do.

Exceeding three months, 1 do. do.

Above 6 months and not 1 year, 1 do. do.

Above 12 months, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 18 months, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 2 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 3 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 5 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 10 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 15 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 20 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 25 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 30 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 35 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 40 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 45 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 50 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 55 years, 1 do. do.

Not exceeding 60 years, 1 do. do.